# The Green Truth

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## Making your Office Green

Start at your desk, your section and then everywhere

#### 1. Unplugging

Save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions at work by setting your computer, monitor and other office equipment to power down when not in use. Unplug laptop power cords when not in use. Turn off equipment and lights at the end of the day. Activate the power management features on your computer and monitor. Plug all your electronics into a

made with recycled content; and recycling paper products, batteries, and used printer cartridges.

All of these actions help conserve energy and reduce carbon pollution. For old electronics (e.g., computers, monitors, cell phones, TVs), investigate manufacturer and retailer take-back programs, as well as non-profit, community and municipal programs and events to

Did you know that the total electricity consumed by idle electronics equals the annual output of 12 power plants?

power strip, which makes it easy to shut everything down at one time.

# 2. Reducing, reusing, and recycling

Doing these three things at the office helps conserve energy, and reduces pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Use two-sided printing and copying; only printing what you need; buying supplies

ensure reuse and recycling.

You can also donate used equipment to schools or other organizations and take advantage of any available tax incentives for computer donations. Find out more information on EPA's website.

https://www.epa.gov/wastew ise.

# \$\$\$\$ for Commuting

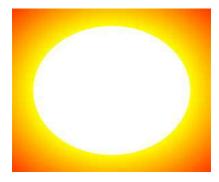
Check out GA Clean Air

Join the movement for public transportation, carpooling, biking, or telecommuting. It can not only save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions on your way to and from work, it could actually earn you cash.

That's right. The Georgia Clean Air Campaign pays you and up to your fellow passengers, a minimum of three people, to leave your car at home. In addition, your employer can benefit from tax credits as well as addressing limited or expensive parking, reducing traffic congestion, improving employee recruiting and retention and minimizing the number of drive-alone commuting. Check it out on Georgia Commutehttp://gacommuteoptions.com/.

## Why is it so Hot?

Business as usual or Climate Change?



Just for fun, some students fried an egg on an Atlanta sidewalk. Belie it or not there is a national egg frying day on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, complete with You Tube video.

The point being that it was really hot, more so than usual. Despite the political debate, the global climate is changing. Fresh water reserves and arable land are shrinking. Weather-related catastrophes, such as heat waves, floods, storms, fires and droughts, are becoming more frequent

and destructive. The result has been death of crops and livestock as well as damages to the habitats on land and sea of wild animals. Our changing global climate threatens lifesustaining resources.

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While some are predicting it is the end of times, and others are arguing it is a shift that would have happened, just like when the dinosaurs disappeared. We need to keep in mind that we don't know what species could lose if we don't decrease our abuse of air, land and sea.



Figure 1 www.epa.gov/climate change

Let' face it, climate change means no more business as usual.

So let's all get greener.

### South Georgia MWFBE Contractors Association

From: NIA, Assn. Secretariat

To: Contractors